(b) The remarks of the Special Settlement officer and the Board of Revenue have been received and they are under the consideration of the Government.

(c) The Settlement officer's report was published in the District Gazettes as long ago as December 1927 in order that persons interested, including members of this House, might make their representations on his proposals. It has been and still is open to any member to table a resolution on any point he desires. The Government do not however consider that they would be justified in making special arrangements to take up the time of the House on these comparatively minor matters.

Increase in the staff of the Settlement office in West Godavari district.

* 929-B Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) with reference to resettlement work in West Godavari district, whether it is a fact that the staff in the Settlement office is limited in number;

(b) what is the time which the present staff will take to check the work turned out by the karnams; and

(c) whether Government have considered the advisability of increasing the staff in the Settlement office in proportion to the number of villages in the taluk, or in the alternative, to summon the karnams one after another so as to avoid their unnecessary stay at headquarters?

A.—(a) & (c) The hon. Member's suggestions will be communicated to the Settlement officer.

(b) The Government have not the information.

Chain survey and field measurement work in the delta villages in Ellore taluk.

* 929-C Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that chain survey and field measurement work have been commenced in the delta villages, Ellore taluk, on or about 1st November 1928;

(b) whether Government are aware that the paddy crop on the fields is nearly ripe for harvesting and that on account of the recent cyclonic weather it is lying flat on the ground rendering even the field bunds unpassable;

(c) whether Government are aware that chain survey work in the paddy fields in the present condition would do immense damage to the crop; and

(d) what steps, if any, Government have taken to postpone the said field measurement work till after the harvesting is over?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) A representation to this effect has been received from the ryots of Ellore taluk, West Godavari district.

(c) No. Damage need not necessarily be caused to the crop unless chains are carelessly dragged through it.

(d) The Director of Survey has issued instructions to reduce the staff as far as practicable till the harvest is over and to see that precautions are taken not to damage the crop when measurements across the field are inevitable.